

Abstract

This invention relates to managing multiple web servers, and more particularly to a web service system and method that allows a system operator to distribute content to each web server in the web service system and notifying a computer, such as a cache server, of content changes. In one embodiment, a method for notifying a computer of changed files includes identifying changes in a source file set, storing the identified changes in a modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying the changed files, and transmitting the modification list to a computer. In another embodiment, a method for replicating changes in a source file set on a destination file system and for notifying a computer of the changes includes identifying changes in a source file set, storing the changes in a first modification list, and transmitting the first modification list to an agent having access to a destination file system. The method also includes storing the changes in a second modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying the changed files, and transmitting the second modification list to a computer. In yet another embodiment, a method for replicating changes in a source file set on a destination file system and for notifying a computer of the changes includes identifying changes in a source file set, storing changes in a modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying the changed files, transmitting the modification list to an agent having access to a destination file system, and transmitting the modification list to a computer. An embodiment of a web service system includes a manager for managing the web service system, a host including a web server for receiving web page requests and an agent in communication with the manager, a web cache, and a content distributor for providing content changes to the host. An embodiment of a content distributor includes an identification module for identifying changes in a source file set, a modification list for storing identified changes, a transmitter for transmitting the modification list to an agent having access to a destination file system, and a transmitter for transmitting the changed files to a web cache server.